From: Frank Widmayer

Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 4:18 PM

To: Steve Ledoux

Cc: Bruce Stamski; Roland Bartl Subject: NextGen Children's Center

Steve,

Scott Mutch forwarded the package and I have reviewed the information submitted by MDM dated 7/18/08. My comments follow.

My biggest concern is how far the traffic will back up on Main Street because if it does go to the Route 2 ramps that will cause a backup on Route 2 in both directions. That would be a significant safety problem.

A very similar situation occurs daily at the Musket Drive & Hayward Road intersections with Main Street. Sometimes the queues can be quite long on the side streets and also on Main Street heading north and south. The issue is not only that people have to wait at the intersection but eventually they will take a chance and pull out hoping someone will stop in time for them.

One of the proposals at Next Generation is to install a left turn lane so traffic heading northbound into the lot will be able to stack up while other northbound traffic continues. That will help the Route 2 backup situation but will also make it very difficult for drivers to exit the NextGen lot and head northbound. The result will be delays for drivers pulling out and thereby cause risky maneuvers by drivers to get out into traffic. Depending on the design, the northbound left turn traffic into the NextGen lot will make it difficult to see if other drivers are heading northbound around the stopped left turn vehicles. This is the situation that occurs whenever someone wants to leave the Public Safety Facility to make a left turn onto Main Street if the northbound traffic is backed up to the second PSF driveway furthest from Hayward Road.

I am not overly concerned about the impact of this development on the PSF because most of the time our emergency response vehicles are out on the road. The PSF does not house any fire apparatus unless they happen to be here for training purposes and their response comes mostly from the outlying fire stations. Generally any emergency vehicles can make their way through traffic jams pretty quickly when lights and sirens are used.

Regards, Frank

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5/20/2009